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PTO/SB/23 (04-01)

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(b)		Docket Number (Optional)
IN RE APPLICATION OF Joseph Dale Helmick		
APPLICATION NUMBER 09/878,811	FILED 06/102001	
FOR self		
GRP. ART UNIT 2122	EXAMINER Mark Powell	
<p>This is a request for an extension of time of <u>1 month after first office action</u> (days), (weeks), (months) under 37 CFR 1.136(b) in this pending application. An extension of time is not available in this application under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a); however, additional time to respond may still be granted under the patent statute. No petition fee is required. The reasons for requesting the extension of time are the following:</p> <p>I am a mid-career student, small entity, independent, for my first utility application. The petition is to extend time on the date of publication 01/10/2002 until after I have heard the office action as to whether the claims will or will not be allowed. To file a PCT application without prior knowledge of claim allowance places an unreasonable burden on a small entity with first application. If the claims are published as is, the invention will become prior art and I can not file for foreign protection. Not to know if the claims are allowed or not before publication could waste the inventor's effort and money on electing to apply for foreign protection. I petition the Assistant Commissioner for Patents for a grace period of 1 month after the first office action.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p><u>Joe, Joseph Dale Helmick</u> Signature</p> <p><u>01/09/02</u> Date</p> <p><u>Joe, Joseph Dale Helmick</u> Typed or Printed Name</p> <p><u>inventor</u> Title</p>		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.5 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.